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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7334

BILL NUMBER: HB 1381

NOTE PREPARED: Apr 29, 2013

BILL AMENDED: Apr 25, 2013

SUBJECT: Public school transfers.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Karickhoff

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Banks

BILL STATUS: Enrolled

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the governing body of a school corporation that accepts transfer students to establish the number of transfer students the school corporation has the capacity to accept. It requires the governing body to establish a date by which transfer requests must be received.

The bill provides that, with certain exceptions, a governing body may not deny a request to transfer from another school corporation to a school within the school corporation for any reason other than capacity. It requires the governing body to publish the deadline for transfer requests on the school corporation's Internet web site and to report the deadline to the Department of Education (Department). This bill also requires the Department to publish school corporations' transfer request deadlines on the Department's Internet web site.

The bill provides that if the number of transfer requests a school corporation receives exceeds the school's capacity, admissions must be determined by a random drawing at a public meeting. It allows a governing body to limit the number of transfers to a particular school building or grade level to ensure that a student who has already transferred to a school may continue attending the same school and to allow the members of the same household as the transfer student to attend a particular school.

The bill provides that the governing body of a school corporation with a school building that offers a special curriculum may require a student who transfers to the school building to meet the same eligibility criteria required of all students who attend the school building that offers the special curriculum.

The bill provides that a school corporation that has adopted a policy to not accept student transfers after June 30, 2013, is not prohibited from enrolling a transfer student who attended a school with the school corporation

during the 2012-2013 school year.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The posting of transfer request deadlines on the Department of Education's Internet web site should have minimal fiscal impact.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: There could be some minor cost in developing the school corporation's capacity to accept transfer students by school building and grade level within each school building. Any additional expense would be within the school's existing resources.

The bill prohibits a student from requesting a transfer primarily for athletic reasons. The provision should have no fiscal impact.

The publishing of the transfer request deadline on the school corporation's Internet web site and reporting the date to the Department of Education should have only minor impact.

Requiring a student who transfers to a school that offers a special curriculum to meet the same eligibility criteria required of other students who attend the school should have no fiscal impact.

The bill allows a governing body to deny a request for a student to transfer, or to establish terms and conditions for enrollment that prevent a student from enrolling, if in the 12 months preceding the student's request to transfer the student was suspended or expelled:

1. for 10 or more school days;
2. for causing a physical injury;
3. for possession of a firearm; or
4. for a violation of drug or alcohol rules.

Background: According to the Department of Education there were 57,367 students that had 10 or more days of unexcused absences during the last school year.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Schools.

Information Sources: Department of Education databases.

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